

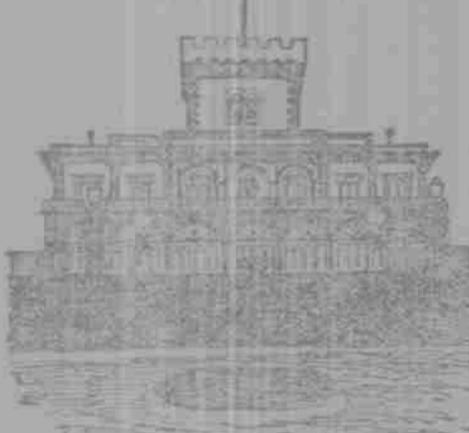


THE QUEEN'S VISIT TO ITALY.

Victoria Will Sojourn at the Villa Fabbricotti, in Florence, This Year.

Queen Victoria will soon make her annual pilgrimage to Italy, whether her visits seem to have become as regular as those to Balmoral and the Isle of Wight. Florence, the City of Flowers, has retained its claims on her majesty's regard, and she will return there again this year, though not in the grand old Villa Palmeri, where she spent the spring of last year. The Villa Fabbricotti, at Montughi, one of the most hilly suburbs of Florence, has been taken for her majesty this season, and several adjacent villas have been engaged for her rather numerous suite. The queen herself selected the locality of her new domicile on her last visit because of its peculiar beauty and pointed out the villa which she believed would suit her requirements.

Villa Fabbricotti is nearer to Florence than Villa Palmeri. It is on the same side of the Arno, but is approached by a



different gate, the Porte Rosso. It dates from the fourteenth century, when it was owned by the old Florentine family of the Brancacci, and was called the Villa Anchoreta, from the beautiful forest of cypress trees which surrounds it. Its present owner, Count Fabbricotti, has restored, enlarged, redecorated, and refurnished it, so that it is quite up to date in the matter of comfort, while possessing all the charm of historical associations.

The villa is built of white stone, outlined with darker color, and has a prettier tower. It faces south and stands on the saddle of the hill commands an extensive and beautiful view, being itself a conspicuous object against a background of evergreen, oaks and cypresses. The grounds below the villa are laid out in a series of beautiful terraced gardens, through which paths may approach the house, and there is a driveway winding round by an easy incline, shaded by beautiful trees and brilliant with gay flowers. The domain is not as extensive as that of Palmeri, but the grounds of several of the neighboring villas have been placed at her majesty's disposal, so that she may extend her drives without coming out upon the public highway.

AS USUAL.

We Had Forgotten All About What His Wife Wanted.

A few weeks ago a prominent Washington lawyer left home to go to his office. His wife asked him for the fourth consecutive day to do a certain errand for her at one of the down-town stores. Her husband said he would attend to the matter, provided he did not forget all about it before he got two squares from home.

"Let me fix it so you will not forget it, my dear," said his wife, as she resorted to the old scheme of tying a string around his finger.

About 5 o'clock in the afternoon the lawyer met a gentleman friend on the street, and in shaking hands the friend noticed a roll of dirty string on the lawyer's finger.

"What are you wearing that string for?" inquired the friend.

"By George!" exclaimed the lawyer, "that's to remind me to do an errand for my wife. I must go do it right away, too, and keep peace to the family," and he started off for one of the dry goods stores.

All the way to the store door the lawyer tried to gain to think what it was his wife had asked him to buy. He walked four blocks out of his way, thinking of every article he had ever known her to like still he could not think what it was that she wanted on this particular occasion. Finally, thoroughly disgusted with himself, he returned to his office, called a messenger and wrote a note to his wife, asking her what she had put the string on his finger for. He waited nearly an hour for the return of the messenger, paid the boy sixty cents, and then had the extreme pleasure of reading this from his lovely little wife:

"Dearest: I did want you to get me some chinical, but I knew you would never think of it, so I sent Mary down this afternoon and she got it for me."

Stop Over in California.

The Great Rock Island route will grant you stop over privileges at any and all points in California on their round trip \$25.00 tickets. No other line does it.

Pearless Steam Laundry 112 and 114 West Sts.

HACKNEY ACTION.

What It Means and How Breeders Have Prodiced It.

A recent writer says: Indeed, action may be said to be the principal hacking attribute, as, while he may be blacker than the ordinary at a walk or standstill, it is immediately after he begins to move at the trot that the whole attention of the beholder is riveted on the horse of this breed. A good one will electrify a crowd by his action under the hands of a first class handler or driver, and the question naturally arises, "How does he get it?" Well, if the true hackney action isn't born with him, it may be developed, or, as any rate, increased in height, somewhat by practice and various methods of handling over deep straw, etc. It's simply grand when pure and true, safe when the hind action is of the right sort, and aalling something to admire and wonder at if any approach to the real thing.

The hind legs should come well forward with a powerful sweep, throwing the body upward and holding it poised while the shoulder has time to revolve, sending out the arm with a strong even movement, snapping the knee as it rises to its point, then sending out the foot gracefully, which touches the ground lightly as it comes down. The legs should perform their office in a perfectly straight line; especially should there be no digging inward or outward of the fore feet. The horse should move along rapidly—say at the trot to five minutes to the mile gait—for an hour or two with out drawing bit, and the load behind him should be such that he can do all this as lightly as if he were not in harness.

This super action has been brought about, combined with all the well rounded and beautiful conformation of the hackneys of the present day, by a rigid carrying out on the part of English horse breeders for centuries of the laws governing the breeding of horses of this particular type—that is to say, they have never neglected to breed a line of great action to match with action and good shape, and size, but not least, they have always borne in mind that to produce a good foal you must feed your mare better during her period of gestation and while suckling her progeny than at any other time. For generations, too, farmers and breeders of the inferior stock have practiced the art of making action or impeding action, so it is that we are able to see more in all the forms in England with more or less of the true hackney action, and it should be the aim of all true lovers of the real hackney to find out the best and nothing but the best and endearing out the breed.

Care For Runaway Dogs.

Some years ago I had a calf in the sheep about a year old. He had acquired such a habit of running with neighborhood dogs that I castrated him. It completely cured him of running home and injured him in no way—in fact, he kept closer very much with the sheep, which were all at the only time he was trained to drive, and I have often remarked that he was worth half a dog more to drive if owned him for some time or two years after this, and he was always a very valuable dog. I had another large dog with him—as many as 2,000 in one herd—and he could drive them with less worry and fatigue to them than any three men. I say this after handling them a good deal in the west and on the plains; also seeing the Mexican and New Mexico drivers, and I am sure they are about the best drivers in the world.—A. P. A. in Rural New York.

Clydesdale Extrication.

At the last meeting of the American Clydesdale association the following resolution was passed: "With regard to registration in the standbook of the organization:

Resolved, That, for six days ending Dec. 31, the Clydesdale stallions and geldings listed in the standbook by bona fide breeders be admitted to the association, and that the same be accepted as collecting points. The stallion or gelding owned by a member of the association, or each stallion or mare owned by a member of the association, shall be entitled to make application for membership."

Thirteen new encampments were instituted in Indiana during the past year.

The brethren of Glenwood, Ia., recently dedicated a \$10,000 building for business and lodge purposes.

If a stranger is found in an anteroom or lodge hall, make sure that he receives a cordial greeting.

In Odd Fellowship the orphan recognizes the brotherhood of God.

The German lodges everywhere enjoy the distinction of being the brightest among the most brilliant.

Schools of instruction are being held in the most convenient points for the lodges to meet in the jurisdiction of Kansas. This plan should be adopted in all jurisdictions.

Only one lodge in New Hampshire is incorporated. In 1892 the grand lodge disapproved of such action.

A. O. U. W.

Select Knights Prospering In the Various Jurisdictions—Notes.

Supreme Commander W. H. Adams of the Select Knights, A. O. U. W., reports that the affairs of the order are in a prosperous condition. From the jurisdiction of Missouri especially Battering reports have been made to headquarters. From the jurisdiction of Kentucky it is reported that active work is being done with the view of having a separate grand jurisdiction next year. At Cincinnati a new legion has been chartered. In the Minnesota jurisdiction there is a very active growth, and applications from 30 to 40 lodges are out.

The grand master of the Ancient Order United Workmen of New Jersey offers \$50 to all lodges which admit 20 members before March 1 next.

A new lodge of the A. O. U. W. is soon to be instituted in south St. Louis. This will make 50 lodges of the order in the city and the largest number of lodges of any order in any city in the United States.

Beech Lodge, Boston, made a net gain of 142 during the year.

The principles of "Fraternity, Aid and Protection" are as eternal as immortality itself.

In fact, they are the links in the great chain which binds the soul of man to the throne of God.

The teachings of the Ancient Order of United Workmen are such as to inspire in the breasts of men the hope and courage necessary to meet the ups and downs of life; there can be no doubt.

Try our Irish stew at 730 Kansas avenue.

DREXEL MAUSOLEUM IN PHILADELPHIA,
Where the Remains of the Late George W. Childs Were Placed Beside His Friend.

AGRICULTURAL AND HORTICULTURAL BUILDING—MIDWINTER INTERNATIONAL EXPOSITION.

ODD FELLOWS.

Report of the Pennsylvania Home—Triple Link Notes.

The twenty-fifth annual report of the president of the Odd Fellows home of Pennsylvania has recently been issued. It states that during the past year the health of the inmates has been unusually good, notwithstanding the advanced age of the inmates. At the beginning of the year there were 20 brothers in the home, and 11 have been admitted. Of these 7 have died, and 2 have left voluntary, while the number remaining at present is 11.

The grand lodge of Iowa is composed of 400 representatives, who represent 41,000 members. The grand lodges of Ohio has 48 representatives and makes laws for 62,000 members—just twice as many.

Araby Lodge, Hull, has assets of over \$1,000 and a membership of 25.

Grand Mason Pawtucket, Pawtucket Mills, of Springfield, Mass., has made arrangements for a hall to be held April 29.

The New York Board of managers has decided upon setting aside one day in the year that shall suffice to draw attention to the Odd Fellows' home. This will be called Dedication day, and by a resolution the 26th day of May, Memorial day, has been chosen.

India spent \$5,402.45 for relief to its members the past year.

Austria has 20,000 Odd Fellows.

Wake up, Pawtucket! Buckle on your armor and make your camp sit with life and progress.

A writer out west advocates the propriety of having "a physiologist as well as medical examiner on the staff of each lodge" and requiring "every applicant to present a chart of his head with his petition for membership."

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KNIGHTS OF HONOR.

History of the Order In Louisiana—Very Interesting Notes.

The order was first introduced in Louisiana by the institution of Alpha Lodge, No. 230, in Shreveport, July 8, 1881, and in the city of New Orleans by the organization of Pelican Lodge, No. 231, July 29 of the same year. In the past 12½ years the grand jurisdiction of Louisiana has received 303 deaths, calling for the payment of \$1,750,000, while the contributions of Louisiana to the widows and orphans sum total stand at \$1,000,000.

There are three assessments for February.

One hundred and six lodges in Massachusetts report again in membership for December.

There are 155 lodges in the February death list, all but 11 of which were full rate members.

It will require \$200,000 to settle these claims.

There were 572 applications received at the office of the express register from four weeks ending Jan. 18.

Knights of the Golden Eagle.

The semiannual reports being received show a splendid increase of membership and funds.

The Knights of the Golden Eagle are strong in Pennsylvania. Their membership is over 41,000. The increase in the last six months was about 500.

The officers of the Massachusetts regiment have decided to have an inspection, review and dress parade complimentary to the Ladies of the Golden Eagle of the state.

The order is located in 50 counties in Pennsylvania, Philadelphia having 80 counties, with 6,000 members; Clearfield, 24 counties, with 1,700 members; Allegheny, 12 counties, with 1,500 members; Lancaster, 12 counties, with 1,600 members; Berk, 10 counties, with 2,200 members.

Ancient Order Foresters of America.

New York state has 274 courts, with a membership of 32,000.

The order has gained 94,108 members during the past two years.

There are 110,000 members, 18 grand courts and 1,000 subordinate courts.

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Rhode Island has one German court.

Court Herman of Providence.

The A. O. U. W. movement find is one of the earliest of its kind in this country. It was inaugurated 24 years ago, its institution antedating most of the successful organizations specially devoted to fraternal insurance.

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OLD RELIABLE UNION PACIFIC.

We are